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S C I E N C E

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Taggart, et al.

Examiner: McKane, Elizabeth L.

Serial No.: 09/354,478

Art Unit: 1744

Filing Date: 07/15/99

Docket No.: STEU-2661

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING CONTAINER INTERIOR
STERILIZATION IN AN ASEPTIC PROCESSING APPARATUS

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
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AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 9, 2002, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended 5 Times) Apparatus comprising:

a first supply source of sterile air;

a supply source of sterilant, wherein the supply source of sterilant includes a spoon dipper apparatus;

an atomizing system producing an atomized sterilant from the mixing of the sterile air from the first supply source of sterile air with the sterilant;

a second supply source of a continuous hot sterile air for continuously providing the hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;

a mechanism for applying the atomized sterilant on to a container; and

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